

BCN Advisory Council Minutes 12/20/2016

The meeting began at 3:04 PM.

Present in DOA Yahara room: Connie Bandt, James Sylla, Bill Herman, Matt Yeakey, Tim Schell (presiding), Bob Bocher, Kurt Kiefer

Joining on telephone: David Cagigal, Tom Taibl from AT&T, [others?]

DOA Report from Connie Bandt:

The BadgerNet transition phase (building the back end of the new network) continues. AT&T is preparing Phase 1 of transformation (migration). Phase 1 will include migration of some libraries and state agencies, but will not include schools. AT&T is considering doing preliminary site visits at all schools before cutting over any of them. The purpose of a site visit is to assess any particular requirements of the cutover at that site, and to determine any potential customer cost associated with the cutover. These costs can include installing conduit in the building, or conduit from the edge of the property to the edge of the building. More information on migration and site visit scheduling will be provided after January 1.

Comments from James Sylla:

DOA is determined to take advantage of all existing fiber assets when adding sites to Badgernet. TEACH plans to cover the first \$1,500 of migration expense incurred by any school or library.

Comments from Bob Bocher:

At sites where new fiber builds are required, districts can use E-rate money to defray AT&T's special construction costs. These costs will be not more than \$80,000/mile and will be charged to the site. AT&T will own the fiber once it is installed.

Comments from David Cagigal:

We are determined to leverage CAF 2 fiber buildouts. We need DPI to give the CAF 2 carriers the address of schools and libraries that don't yet have fiber. The carriers will not build to the schools and libraries, but they can prioritize building to a node near the schools and libraries. Related, the FirstNet bid award should be finalized in March. This will include building many cell towers that should be able support commercial cell carriers -- extending rural cell coverage.

Comments from Tom Taibl of AT&T

AT&T is in discussions with Wiscnet about its possible role in the new BadgerNet. The most recent meeting was December 15. There are several active discussion items on the table and a resolution is expected by January 15. AT&T is also in discussion with another alternative ISP to determine its role in the new BadgerNet. AT&T is working to correct ISP pricing for libraries as defined in the contract. Specifics on this will depend partly on the outcome of discussions with WiscNet.

Comments from Kurt Kiefer:

DPI is working on a residential access pilot with Racine Unified School District, PSC, and providers of Internet service within RUSD. The pilot has two aims: 1) to inform all eligible student residences of programs that provide discounted Internet access service based on poverty indicators; and 2) to gather data for policy makers about where Internet service is available within the district, what percentage of residences subscribe, what percentage are eligible for discount programs, and what percentage of eligible residences subscribe to a discount program. The goal is to develop processes that can be applied at scale across the state. DPI also recently announced the update of the state digital learning plan. It is organized around the Future Ready framework which includes tools for school districts to use to create local digital learning and library media plans.

The meeting ended at 3:52.